

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 02058 290700Z

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 IGA-02
OES-06 DODE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00
/080 W

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O R 281547Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3654

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (REF B TO READ OSLO 2050 VICE 1975)

PASS DOT FOR US COAST GUARD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SENV, NO

SUBJECT: FORMAL REQUEST FOR U.S. COAST GUARD ASSISTANCE IN NORTH
SEA OIL SPILL

REF: (A) STATE 95401 AND (B) OSLO 2050

1. FOLLOWING NOTE FORMALLY REQUESTING US COAST GUARD ASSISTANCE
IN NORTH SEA OIL SPILL IF CAPPING OPERATIONS NOW BEING ATTEMPTED
NOT SUCCESSFUL GIVEN E/C COUNSELOR APRIL 28 BY DIRECTOR GENERAL
BOEGH IN NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY:

2. QUOTE THE ROYAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS
COMPLIMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY AND HAS THE HONOUR TO
REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IN
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PAGE 02 OSLO 02058 290700Z

CONNECTION WITH THE CLEANING UP OF OIL IN THE EKOFISK AREA IN
THE NORWEGIAN SECTOR OF THE NORTH SEA.
THE U.S. COAST GUARD HAS ESTABLISHED "STRIKE TEAMS" AND THE
REQUEST CONCERNS PERSONNEL AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT FROM THESE
STATIONS TO BE USED IN THE OPEN SEA.
ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE NORWEGIAN
GOVERNMENT, THE PREPARATION OF THE EQUIPMENT FOR TRANSPORT AND

USE TAKES A FEW DAYS. AT THIS STAGE IT IS THEREFORE REQUESTED THAT THE EQUIPMENT BE MADE READY FOR USE, AND TRANSPORTATION PREPARED, SO THAT CREW AND EQUIPMENT MAY BE TRANSPORTED TO NORWAY AT SHORT NOTICE.

IT IS THE OPINION OF THE NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES THAT DETAILS CONCERNING TYPE AND SIZE OF EQUIPMENT, NUMBER OF TEAMS ETC. CAN BEST BE ARRANGED BY DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN THE U.S. COAST GUARD AND THE LEADER OF THE OPERATION CENTER IN STAVANGER, MR. HANS CHR. BUGGE. MR. BUGGE HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO SPECIFY THE SCOPE OF THE ASSISTANCE TO BE REQUESTED. HE HAS ALSO BEEN AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT THE NORWEGIAN STATE FINANCIALLY IN THE MATTER. THE OPERATION CENTER CAN BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE NO. NORWAY 045-51190 OR TELEX 33361. IF MR. BUGGE IS NOT PRESENT, MR. CARLSEN, OR MR. BREILAND MAY BE CONTACTED. THE PRACTICAL OPERATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH PHILLIPS PETROLEUM CO., TELEX 33105. THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT VOUCHES FOR ALL EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATION. THE ROYAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. UNQUOTE

3. IN PRESENTING NOTE BOEGH AND HAMBRO OF ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) PURPOSE OF NOTE IS SO THAT US COAST GUARD (USCG) WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATE MOBILIZATION OF STRIKE TEAMS,
(B) STRIKE TEAMS WOULD ONLY BE CALLED ON IF PRESENT ATTEMPTS TO CAP OIL LEAK DO NOT WORK AND LEAK CONTINUES. EQUIPMENT ALREADY AVAILABLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE OIL SPILL SO FAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OSLO 02058 290700Z

IF CAPPING OPERATIONS ARE SUCCESSFUL,
(C) NORWAY WILL PAY MOBILIZATION COSTS AS WELL AS ANY STRIKE TEAM OPERATING COSTS IF TEAMS ARE CALLED UPON,
(D) FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS FROM NORWAY, INCLUDING ACTUAL REQUEST FOR STRIKE TEAM ASSISTANCE, WILL BE MADE DIRECTLY BY NORWEGIAN OPERATIONS CENTER TO USCG. ANY QUESTIONS USCG HAS REGARDING MOBILIZATION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO NORWEGIAN OPERATIONS CENTER,
(E) NORWAY IS NOT FULLY INFORMED ABOUT STRIKE TEAMS, BUT BELIEVES THEY ARE LOCATED IN FLORIDA, CALIFORNIA, AND MEXICAN GULF,
(F) IF STRIKE TEAM ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED, PERSONNEL AS WELL AS EQUIPMENT WILL BE REQUIRED,
(G) NORWEGIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON BEING ADVISED OF FOREIGN MINISTRY APPROACH.

4. BOEGH SAID HIS GOVERNMENT PROFOUNDLY APPRECIATIVE OF USG HELP AND HAMBRO SAID HIS MINISTER ASKED THAT USG BE INFORMED OF HER PERSONAL APPRECIATION.

5. EMBASSY PRESUMES USCG WILL CONTACT NORWEGIAN OPERATIONS
CENTER IMMEDIATELY AND WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED
OF USCG POINT OF CONTACT ON MATTER.
ANDERS

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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